

In the Specification:

Please amend the Brief Description Of The Invention as follows:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figures 1A-1J show ~~FIG. 1~~ is an alignment of the BASB053 polynucleotide sequences, SEQ ID NOs:1 and 3; identity to SEQ ID NO:1 is indicated by a dot; gaps are indicated by a dash.

Figures 2A-2D show ~~FIG. 2~~ is an alignment of the BASB053 polypeptide sequences, SEQ ID NOs 2 and 4; identity to SEQ ID NO:2 is indicated by a dot: gaps are indicated by a dash.

Figure 3 ~~FIG. 3~~ is an SDS-PAGE electrophoresis showing expression of recombinant BASB053 in E. coli Top10 cells; lane 1 corresponds to bacterial protein extracts (strain carrying plasmid pBADgIII); lane 2 corresponds to recombinant protein (pBADgIII-BASB053).